



# Minutes

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission  
FULL COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Held in Person at Cass County Road Commission

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marchetti, Roseann, Chair, Cass County Commissioner  
Doroh, Kurt, Vice Chair, Van Buren County Commissioner  
Preston, Linda, Secretary, Cass County Representative  
Gundersen, Kristen, Alternate Secretary, Berrien County Representative  
Remus, Richard, Treasurer, Berrien County Representative  
Petersen, Jan, Alternate Treasurer, Van Buren County Representative  
Catherman, Rick, Van Buren County Representative  
Curran, Jim, Berrien County Commissioner  
DeLong, Don, Cass County Representative  
Dodd, James, Cass County Representative  
Fette, Dan, Berrien County Representative  
Freehling, Teri Sue, Berrien County Commissioner  
Hanson, Sandra, Van Buren County Representative  
Leary, Tina, Van Buren County Representative  
Newton, Matthew, Van Buren County Representative  
Pantaleo, Paul, Berrien County Representative  
Patterson-Gladney, Gail, Van Buren County Commissioner  
Stauffer, Dick, Berrien County Representative  
Torzynski, Robert, Pokagon Band Representative  
Tyler, Doug, Cass County Representative  
Wuerfel, Julie, Berrien County Commissioner  
Wood, Gary, Berrien County Representative

## **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Durm-Hiatt, Marge, Berrien County Representative

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Roseann Marchetti called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Office Manager, Maria Vettrains took roll call, and a quorum was present.

### **2. ACCEPTANCE AND/OR REVISION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Roseann Marchetti presented the Consent Agenda. Dick Stauffer moved to “**ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA.**” Linda Preston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Egelhaaf announced Sarah Snoeyink will be leaving her position as an Ex. Officio Member of the Board. Kurt Doroh shared Zach Morris's recommendation of Katie Multhauf with Market Van Buren.

Chair Marchetti spoke on the Materials Management project and how it is likely the three counties will collaborate.

Dan Fette inquired about the Adjusted Census Urban Boundary (ACUB) meeting. Egelhaaf explained how locals can give input on boundaries and census changes, with Buchanan's boundary change being of note.

Julie Wuerfel asked about the EV Readiness Plan and Egelhaaf explained the purpose and goals of the project.

James Dodd moved to **"ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT."** Gail Patterson-Gladney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EVALUATION: AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT**

Kurt Doroh thanked those involved with the evaluation process and explained that process to the Board. Marchetti would like to set up a time to meet with Director Egelhaaf to discuss the evaluation findings before the sub-committee suggests a salary change. Doroh moved to create a motion to move the Executive Director salary discussion to the December meeting.

Kurt Doroh moved to **"ACCEPT MOTION TO MOVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SALARY DISCUSSION TO DECEMBER MEETING."** Julie Wuerfel seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **5. SWMPC ANNUAL AWARDS**

Director Egelhaaf went over the Graham Woodhouse Award including the internal process, past recipients, nomination form, and submission deadline of November 13<sup>th</sup>. Egelhaaf then explained the Welch Lackey Award and announced this year's nomination of Gail Patterson-Gladney. He told the Board that ballots are due this Friday and can be sent to Office Manager, Maria Vettraino.

### **6. PLANNER PRESENTATION**

*EDA Recompete Grant & MI Infrastructure Council Tech Assistance Idea*

Associate Planner, Zane Aldrich, presented the EDA Recompete Grant and MI Infrastructure Office (MIO) Technical Assistance ideas. He explained the Recompete Grant is a jobs program for economically distressed communities. Aldrich went over the Tri County Head Start program and how it has expanded facilities and created training programs for childcare workers.

Aldrich then shared the tasks involved with the Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Program. He presented ten idea submissions that will be voted on by the Board. Members of the Board shared confusion with the submission deadline and what it was for. In conclusion, the submission deadline was extended. Director Egelhaaf created a new timeline: submission deadline extended to October 27<sup>th</sup>, SWMPC will share new submission list November 1<sup>st</sup>, and voting will close on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **8. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Linda Preston shared that SWMPC's past employee, Jerrid Burdue has won the Robinson Scholarship through the Michigan Township Association to further his education.

Kurt Doroh shared that Van Buren County has voted to take \$950,000 of ARPA funds to work with ISD in reaching out to kids for mental health help.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

James Dodd moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandra Hanson supported the motion. The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

Respectfully submitted by:



K. John Egelhaaf, AICP

Date: October 17, 2023